

In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims:

1. A communication mechanism for transferring information between different processes each residing on a processor separately coupled to a data storage system, said communication mechanism being allocated from the data storage system comprising:

at least one interface integrated into each process for enabling the transfer of information from one process to another process where the data is transferred from one process to the other process through the data storage system.

10. In a network having a plurality of computer system calls, said computer system calls available to a user of a first process residing on a first processor to begin and facilitate communication with a second process residing on a second host processor, through a data storage system, wherein the first and second processors are separately coupled to the data storage system, said computer system calls comprising:

a first call within said process to obtain a communication mechanism from said data storage system, wherein said first call selects a transfer means and a desired type of communication;

a second call within said first process to create a local address for said first process to use with said communication mechanism; and

a third call within said first process to create a connection between said first process and said second process, wherein said third call connects said first process to said second process.

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16. A method for transferring information between at least first and second processes residing on processors separately connected to a data storage system via the [a] data storage system, the method comprising the steps of:

- creating a communication mechanism;
- using said communication mechanism to create a connection between said first process and said second process; and
- transferring information from said first process via said data storage system to said second process.

20. A system comprising :

- a plurality of host processors, wherein each host processor includes a plurality of processes resident on of each of said host processors;
- a local storage area connected to each of said plurality of host processors;
- a data storage system separate from said plurality of host processors and connected to each of said plurality of host processors; and
- a communication mechanism resident within each one of said plurality of processes, in which information stored in said local storage area is transferred by one of said communication mechanisms via said data storage system to said communication mechanism resident within another one of said plurality of processes.

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26. A data storage system for transferring information from a first process to a second process, each of which is running on a selected one of a plurality of host processors that are separately connected to said data storage system, said data storage system comprising:

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a plurality of storage devices;
a shared storage region to which both of said first and second processes share access;
a control block table implemented in at least one of said plurality of storage devices; and
wherein said control block table allocates a communication mechanism for said first process which said first process uses to establish a connection to said second process through said shared memory storage region.

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27. A communication mechanism for transferring information between processes each residing on a processor separately coupled to a data storage system, through the data storage system, said communication mechanism comprising:

at least one interface located between the processes and a transport protocol in communication with the data storage system for enabling the transfer of said information through said data storage system, the interface comprising:

a socket allocated from a shared memory region in the data storage system by one of the processes, wherein the socket is not bound to any specific destination address.

Remarks

Claims 1-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over by U.S. Patent No. 5,617,537 to Yamada et al. (hereinafter "Yamada") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,745,760 to Kawamura et al. (hereinafter "Kawamura"). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.